The A. F. of L. Weekly News Letter contains a brief summary of important matters affecting labor, occurring in the industrial, legislative, and judicial fields, and such other information that will benefit the trade union movement.

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS LETTER

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AGITATE! EDUCATE! ORGANIZE!

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The money he actually invests is protected by a mortgage—called bonds—on iron ore mines, mills, equipment, etc. This interest is a charge on the industry, as is the cost of raw material, its manufacture and transportation, as well as princely wages—called salaries—which it is noticed he does not offer to reduce. All these charges must be met before profits are considered.

Recently John Skelton Williams, then comptroller of the currency, showed by the trust's figures for 1918 that its profits that year would permit it to cut the price of its products $30 a ton, double wages of its 300,000 employes and officials, pay dividends on its bonds and still have a surplus of $10,000,000.

When the steel worker's wage is lowered he sacrifices in the full meaning of the word—as his wife and little ones can testify.

The steel magnate's living standards are not involved when prices are reduced, but the worker must live on less when wages are reduced.

The process is a travesty of coordinate profits—with the interest guaranteed—the other must tighten his belt and reduce the food necessary for America's future citizens.

One agrees to cut profits on reinvested profits, watered stock and credit that is capitalized, while the other must cut the milk ration for kiddies and see their general living standard lowered.

This is the condition under which steel calls upon IT and 13-hour serfs to join with it in "sacrifice."

This talk is all stuff. It is intended to develop among workers a sickly emotionalism unworthy of Americans.

The worker is the only one who sacrifices.

"Big Five" Meat Packers Smash Federal Arbitration Plan

Chicago, March 12.—Quickly following their abrogation of an agreement with workers, to which the government was a party to, the "big five" meat packers announce a 12½ per cent wage reduction and longer hours.

Under the agreement any change in working conditions had to be approved by Federal Judge Alschuler, who was selected by the national council of defense in 1918 to act as arbitrator until peace was declared.

On April, 1919, the packers asked Secretary of Labor Wilson to extend the agreement one year after peace was declared. Judge Alschuler was then employed to take this action in order "to avoid labor controversies and to promote industrial welfare during the troublous period of reconstruction."

Under this agreement the arbitration machinery functions until one year after peace is officially declared by the United States. This the packers own proposal. Now they reject it and announce war on their employes.

Their first step is to smash the arbitration machinery created by the government by driving united to the United States department of labor "that in the future they would not submit to the jurisdiction of Judge Alschuler as administrator."

The packing house barons have not only struck a blow at arbitration, but they have shaken the confidence of the 200,000 employes in this industry and all other workers in the "open shop" industrial agencies," declared Dennis Lane, secretary-treasurer of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen's union.

"What do you suppose enters into the mind of the worker who stayed on the job for 40 cents an hour under the war period, or who never received more than 43 cents an hour in the high wage period of 1919 to 1920, because he loyally kept his agreement with the employers not to strike, but arbitrate, now when the packers discarded the government to cut wages and lengthen hours? Does it increase his respect for government, its courts or for all other workers ever again take kindly to arbitration?

"As recently as last August two packers signed an agreement making plants in this city went on strike and the packers immediately requested the secretary of labor to urge them to return to work and maintain their agreement. Our informational union ordered these men back to work on penalty of revocation of charter in order to sustain our agreement with the government. The labor market was in our favor, and we could win by a test strike, secured a large increase in wages and other concessions.

"Keep in mind that August, 1920, was almost two years after signing the agreement, when the packers then, with the existing labor market, did not dare to ask that agreement should be set aside because the signing of peace with Germany had been declared by them.

Mr. Lane states that when the packers asked for an extension of the agreement, in 1919, their employes were not anxious to accept the plan, but about 90 per cent voted for it. Then they were working but 40 cents an hour, and they knew that with the condition of the labor market favorable to them they could, through their economic power, secure substantial concessions from the packers.

"We listened, however, to the appeal of the government," said Secretary Lane, "that we continue to submit to arbitration and renew our agreement with the department of labor for the period requested of the packers one year after peace had been signed, and we agree and sign such an agreement.

"If the packers had any sense of justice and fairness in their attitude toward their employes, and sincerely believed that a reduction in wages and any changes in hours or working conditions were justifiable because of a changed economic situation, they would and could have made use of the arbitration machinery under the Alschuler agreement by filing a petition for a hearing and presenting on such matters. That was the orderly procedure they were morally bound to follow in their agreement with the government.

"There was no penalty clause attached to this agreement, but what are the packing barons for moral obligations?"

THEY ARE NOT ORGANIZED.

Chicago, March 12.—A. R. McGrath, district superintendent of the Western Electric company, has issued and forwarded this notice to all managers:

"The slowing up of business has added to the ranks of the unemployed. It is now up to you to help' situation very favorable, as there is a surplus of workers, strike, if available. We should now be able to secure new employes at lower rates than we have been paying. I notice a tendency on the part of some of our managers to secure new employes at the same rating as is paid old employes, who are leaving. This is wrong and should not be done. Where these ratings were made because of the length of service of the employe involved together with the high cost of living, which, by the way, is rapidly coming down, in many cases new employes are receiving 5 cents or 10 cents per hour less and 5% or 10% less irregular ratings should be eliminated as fast as employes leave the service and new ones are employed. Please acknowledge receipt."

AMEND COMPENSATION LAW.

Dover, Del., March 12.—The state senate has strengthened the state compensation commission law by providing hospital service during the first 30 days after injury.

The cost of surgical, medical and hospital services, medicines and supplies during that time shall not exceed $100. Upon application made by the injured employe's board by an injured employe or some one in his behalf, the board may, in its discretion, order the employer to furnish additional surgical, medical and hospital services, medicines and supplies during such time as may be regularly charged to other individuals for like services and supplies, providing, however, the industrial accident board shall at all times have the right to select or determine the character of services and supplies to be furnished.

FRANKLY ANTI-UNION.

Chicago, March 12.—A score of jewelry employers in this city have formed a "protective" league to instigate and frankly announce their opposition to trade unionism.

They have abrogated their contract with the Jewelry Workers' union and have signed up a new one, in contrast:

"We accept employment upon the understanding that I am not a member of a labor union; that said employer may discharge me at any time that during my said employment I shall not become a member of a labor union, and will have no dealings, communications or interviews with the officers, agents or members of any labor union in relation to membership, by me in any labor union, and relative to my said employment."

The validity of contract was upheld by the United States supreme court, December 16, 1917, in the so-called Hitchman case.

IGNORE AGREEMENT.

Birmingham, Ala., March 12.—The failure of the United States fuel administrator in this state is being ignored in the matter of putting into effect the 14 per cent increase in wages made by the miners' representatives to the commission, it was learned today. The board showed that the law authorizing the duties of the office has expired. The road was then thrown into the hands of a receiver and the receiver, in turn, refused to make out 60 per cent of the total of all increases granted since 1917.

ALIEN ACT POCKETED.

Washington, March 12.—President Wilson refused to act on the immigration restriction proposal, passed by congress, and the act is now classed as a veto measure. It is predicted that it will be introduced in the coming special session of congress.

The act provided that immigration shall be limited to 3 per cent of the various nationalities in this country according to the census of 1910.

PROBERS LOSE JOBS.

Washington, March 12.—One of the last official acts of Attorney General Palmer was to instruct all special assistants employed in the prosecution of cases under the Lever act, that their services were at an end. The act is the wartime control of the United States supreme court's decision that cases under which these prosecutions were conducted is illegal.

SUCCEEDS LOUIS POST.

Washington, March 12.—The first official act of Secretary of Labor Davis was to appoint Edward J. Henning of San Diego, Cal., assistant secretary of labor to succeed Louis Post. The appointee is a lawyer and it is stated that he is favorable to a plan for the federal order of which the new secretary of labor is head.

UPHOLDS WOODEN BAN.

Washington, March 12. — The United States supreme court has upheld a law on wooden buildings within the fire limits of the city of San Francisco.

TRADE UNION SPIES WOULD BE OUTLAWED

Sacramento, Cal., March 12.—Assemblyman Hurley wants the principle underlying anti-sedition language in effect in all state laws, and to that end has introduced a labor spies bill.

The law makes it a felony for employers to employ "professional provocateurs, as they are known in continental Europe.

"It is these," said Assemblyman Hurley, "who are responsible for violence and destruction of property during strikes.

"They are always the most radical member in the labor ranks. He first ingratiates himself with his fellow workers, joins the union and then begins to agitate, his agitation mostly taking the form of violence.

"He becomes the hired thug of the employer, by whom he is set something on his other workers, and once in a while, as is only natural, he finds some worker either too weak to resist his suggestions, or of a radical temperament, that makes him a convert to the methods favored by the spy.

"Some of the most heinous things that have occurred in connection with the labor movement in recent years have been pulled by these spies. It is they, usually, who lead the dynamiting crews, and generally the ones who carry out the plans for the wrecking of property. But it is the union worker who gets the blame, and public sentiment is thus aroused against the labor movement."

The assemblyman cited many specific cases which have occurred within recent years in various parts of the state that were the direct result of the labor spy system. The spy preaches and practices violence, and it is for that reason that he is placed where it will do the labor movement the most harm, he said.

THUGS RUN AMUCK.

Albany, N. Y., March 12—Head lines of newspapers in this vicinity tell the story of thuggery connected with the street car company's attempt to relieve the strike. The following announcements are of daily occurrence:

"Private guards held, as police probe shooting."

"Six guards arrested for smashing heads."

"Order off streets."

"Clubbing by private guards.

"Weathervane ordered to withdraw guards.

"Mayor blames unauthorized thugs.

"Four men are brutally beaten by Cosgrove guards.

"John J. Greenway was stripped of revolver; refused permit to carry one.

"Revolver taken from Fred McGrath, Cosgrove's lieutenant.

"Riot call sent after Waterviiet store; clubbed persons gathered inside.

"Mayor Michael L. Walsh declares: 'Private guards must go.'"

Watervliet by United Traction company are responsible for all riotings.

TWO SETS OF LAWS

Altoona, Pa., March 12.—"We live under the law of the land, but not the land and the law of the employer," said John P. Frey, editor of the Molders' Journal, in an address in this city.

"Both the employer and the trade unionist, "determines our condition of living to a far greater extent than the law of the land. The one determines the kind of home we shall live in, the kind of clothes we shall wear, the kind of food we shall eat, the kind of education we can give our children, our pleasures and our health largely. Statistics prove that health is largely dependent on the quality and quantity of food consumed and the conditions of sanitation existing in the home and the place of employment."

In defending the trade union movement, the speaker declared that he "would take chances for a thousand times as much labor than rather than with a man who would sell rotten armor plate to the government."

RAIL EMPLOYES STRIKE.

Atlanta, Ga., March 12.—The first strike vote on the Seaboard system line was recorded when 1,600 employes of the Georgia, Birmingham and Atlantic railroad tied up traffic because of a wage cut. The reduction was put into effect under the provisions in the railroad act governing such conditions.

Recently the road attempted to cut wages, but the railway labor board refused this increase request. The board showed that the law authorizing the duties of the office has expired. The road was then thrown into the hands of a receiver and the receiver, in turn, refused to make out 60 per cent of the total of all increases granted since 1917.

PAINT SPRAYS HARMFUL.

Olympia, Wash., March 12.—Painters who have been victims of legislation for the protection of workmen from poisonous and dangerous gases and fumes, by prohibiting the use of paint spraying machines that spray poisonous and dangerous materials.

Such a state conference of painters in this line of industry has been secured, of the harmful effects of spraying machines in the workshop, linseum, inevitably making the operator sick, injuring his eyesight and causing him to suffer carbolism. Organized painters as a rule refuse to work where such legislation is necessary to protect the health organized and unskilled who are induced to work.

BILLS THAT FAILED.

Washington, March 12.—At the final adjournment of the sixty-sixth congress, the following bills failed to pass:

Pure-butter-and-cattle bill, government regulation of cold storage, Webb bill to permit co-operative marketing by farmers, appropriate money for federal good roads, Sheppard-Towner act, to feed stuffs, infant and maternity fund, creating a department of education.

END LABOR COMMITTEE.

Chicago, March 12.—The national association of railway executives has abolished its labor committee. The organized effort to prevent a national agreement and the management insisted the system organization with its employes, the managers have been conducting their fight through their organization committee, and they have discovered that it is inconsistent with their claims. As they have come to an understanding they can now conduct the affairs individually.

WOULD SET WAGES.

Albany, N. Y. March 12.—Under a bill introduced by representatives of the state industrial commission would be authorized to fix the wages of employes of any factory, to secure uniformity of industry, and to investigate wage conditions and fix minimum wage rates.

DEFEAT ANTI-STRIKE LAW.

Little Rock, Ark., March 12.—Trade unionists and farmers lined up against a proposed anti-strike law, which was defeated by the state legislature. A factor in its defeat was the active opposition of the Arkansas Federation of Labor, which addressed a letter to members of the legislature, urging the defeat of the measure.

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SHAM PATRIOT ROUTED BY WESTERN EDUCATOR

San Francisco, March 12.— The state board of education has checked the attempt of anti-unionists to flood public schools with their reactionary literature.

As a starter a pamphlet entitled "America is Calling" was prepared, but the board refused to consider its patriotism and ordered that the circulation in the schools be prohibited.

This aroused Samuel Lessig, of Santa Cruz, who protested and threatened, in a letter to Will C. Wood, state superintendent of public instruction.

In his reply the editor said:

"So far I have refused to own reasoning in a matter of this kind. I have intended that the public schools should be the battle ground for the settlement of partisan or sectarian differences. The people of California know what free and open discussion is and can not be deceived.

"They have barred sectarians and partisan propaganda. It is not necessary to do this in order to preserve their freedom of action.

"As you state in your letter, the people of this state have placed you and the members of the board in a position of tremendous responsibility, and I feel confident that the ideas which shall or shall not be placed before their school children should be passed upon by school [illegible].

"We administer responsibility and intend to carry it out intelligently, notwithstanding the threats and cajolery of any one."

RAIL PLAN NOT ROSY.

New York, March 12.—Defenders of the Cummins-Esch railroad act see nothing rosier than when the law was passed. The financial interests were happy. Rates were higher than ever. Interest charges was guaranteed and the prospects were rosy. People who made contrary predictions were called "croakers," but it must appear that both croakers and pessimists have been verified.

The law is being attacked in the United States senate. Democrats have made shipment impossible and the Republicans, like those who defended the act, but now contend that the railroad question is far from settled.

One financial writer says: "Today bank's pessimism is greater than ever the railroad outlook appears to be optimism, when the Cummins-Esch law was passed.

"The present chaos of operation of the railroads is undoubtedly unsound and cannot long continue."

KILL ANTI-PICKET BILL.

Indianapolis, March 12.—The anti-picket bill was killed after one of the most sensational battles ever staged in the Indiana house of representatives. The proposal was most sweeping and all inclusive, repealing practically every law on the anti-picket ordinances and to put forth new ones. The senate, after our revisions, it was declared that there is no necessity for the passage of such laws as the picketing, assault and trespass are now covered by law.

OPPOSE COSSACKS.

Springfield, Ill., March 12.—State Senator Dunlap, who is sponsor for a resolution to call upon the state legislature, has heard from the farmer organizations.

The Champaign Gazette conducted a referendum on the proposal and received 1,000 votes to one against it. Senator Dunlap's district includes Champaign. That and fourteen counties in the law case also insisted that their farmers demand immediate action.

PRESSMEN MAKE GAINS.

Pressmen's Home, Tenn., March 12.—The current issue of the International Pressmen prints a long list of wage gains by locals affiliated with the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' union. Some of the gains include the 44-hour week and wage advances of $10 a week.

TRUST RAISES PRICES.

New York, March 12.—The American Woolen company has announced that their prices on staple suitings are increased 5 to 10 cents a yard. Recently the trust reduced wages of its unorganized workers on the plea that lower production costs would stimulate business.

BLAME DEAD DETECTIVE.

Williamson, W. Va., March 12.—Testifying for the defense in the case of Sid Hatfield and co-defendants, Miss Elizabeth Burgraff, told the jury she heard Detective Felts, who was killed in the Matewan street fight, declare he "was going to get Sid Hatfield, Testerman and Blankenship" before he left the town, and "others if they interfered." Hatfield is chief of police, Testerman was mayor of Matewan at the time, and was killed, and Blankenship was sheriff of Mingo county at the time of the shooting.

Miss Burgraff testified that she was employed at a hotel where the detectives were quartered. Felts, stopped when they were engaged in stealing striking miners' families from company houses. The witness said the detectives carried rifles when they called at the hotel, and when talking down their guns Felts made the threats. When leaving the hotel she said she noticed that the detectives were carrying their rifles in packages, but that they had their "short guns" at their sides. Which they carried upon either.

John Burt swore that he saw Albert Felts fire the first shot.

SING DIFFERENT TUNE

New York, March 12.—A few months ago labor was urged to greater production, and every one had it, industrial high priests were laid at the door of "workers who refused to produce."

These elements are now singing a different tune, as is indicated by this statement by the Commercial correspondent to the Annalist, a financial paper, published in this city:

"All dressed up and no place to go' is a phrase which one economist who has been studying conditions in Washington applied to the situation in both overproduced industries, farms and cotton fields found themselves facing. Not since 1893 have markets practically closed because of inability to buy."

The correspondent makes no comment on the inability of his own reasoning, but he does state that it is "an indeniable fact that the industries of the nation are overproduced."

SICKNESS IS COSTLY.

Albany, N. Y., March 12.—An investigation of the cost of 143 manufacturers, employing 17,000 workers during the latter part of 1919, shows that the sickness average of 15 cases per thousand, reported by the state industrial commission. The total number of cases of sickness lasted from three days to six months, with a total for the half year. The lost time was 45,655 days. The average loss in each case was 14 days' working time and $36.73 in wages. This industrial "bill of rights" is complete, can not be compared with other investigations, as only able-bodied adults were considered.

"WISE" MEN SPEAK.

New York, March 12.—This comment on the present economic crisis in Washington is made by a financial publication that poses as an authority on labor questions:

"This declaration of new principles of 'bill of rights' is a complete reversal of form the policy of President Samuel Gompers and would seem to indicate that the radicals in organized labor have overcome the old leaders. It is intended to make an unrelenting and aggressive fight on the question of the open or closed shop."

ORE OUTPUT IS LOW.

Ashland, Wis., March 12.—The winter production of iron ore on the Gogebic iron range is 50 per cent normal, it is learned here during the coming season will show a drop of one-third as compared with last year.

PREFERENCE TO WAGES.

Albany, N. Y., March 12.—Governor Miller has signed a bill which provides that wage claims of employes must be given first consideration when a corporation with ownership in placed in the hands of a receiver.

TO ADJUST DISPUTES.

Washington, March 12.—Before his retirement President Wilson appointed Secretary of Labor Wilson as a member of the international joint commission which adjusts disputes between this country and Canada. The salary is $7,500 a year, this city on May 9.

PUBLIC WILL "BITE" AGAIN.

New York, March 12.—The New York World predicts that next winter's shortage in tonnage of coal is the old excuses for high prices and the public will "bite" again.

The editor calls attention to claims that strikes, etc., were responsible for high prices.

"Spring is upon us after a mild winter; coal is low; the coal mines in the dealers' yards are well stocked; miles of coal cars stand on railroad sidings; steel manufacturers have disentangled sufficiently to increase the mines, when short notice; and we learn, after all, that 1920 was a banner year in coal production and steel output.

"Prices, nevertheless, are at the same level, or little reduced. The dealers predict that unless the demand increases prices cannot go down.

"The truth is that neither last fall's nor the present crisis would have good excuse be found for the market quotations on anthracite.

"The world has in a most expensive and unsatisfactory drama, and one that we shall probably stage all over again next winter."

ANTI-UNIONISTS TRAPPED.

West Palm Beach, Fla., March 12.—Anti-unionists in this city have been trapped in the old game of unionizing labor in the surrounding localities are voluntarily reducing wages, and then asking why local unions do not do the same.

In this case Miami trade unionists have advertised for such voluntary action. The local unionists made inquiries of the Miami building trades council, and were informed by President Strom of that body that "we have a most plain lie."

"The people are not idiots," writes the Miami unionist, "they are perfectly aware that the obstruction to building is the high cost of solidly behind two rocks. One is the speculation in land that places the home beyond the reach of the builder and the other is the lumber trust. The first has been dwindled into insignificance beside these two grants.

"There is neither excuse nor probability that any such action will be taken by members of the local, organized labor, of course, will always be ready to take anything that is offered it."

TELLING "TRADE SECRETS."

Philadelphia, March 12.—The New York financial correspondent for a local newspaper gives this interesting information as to the judiciary.

"Judge Gary, in common with many bankers, has insisted that the steel industry should be carefully scrutinized. Those familiar with the situation wonder what the remedy is problem is going to be solved. In the wholesale grocery trade it is charged that the control of credits by one bank in the city is the largest power exercised in the entire country. Another bank probably owns the largest supply of men's clothing. Many banks control the stocks are represented in every bank.

"Philadelphia, the home of the Pennsylvania railroad, is largely run by the speeches of the banking fraternity, they, like Judge Gary, want everybody else to do the labor."

MINE WASTE IS COSTLY.

Philadelphia, March 12 — The streams in the Lehigh, Lackawanna, Schuylkill river, are polluted by the discharge of waste from mines, according to Chief Engineer Emerson, jr., of the state department of health.

He said some of the results of the waste from the mine fields were the blocking of sewer outlets and the increasing flood damage, destruction of real life and increasing the hardness of the water and thereby adding to the expense of maintaining it. At least 96 water works in the state. All this has increased the cost of production and industries in the Pittsburgh district $10,000,000 annually.

FAVOR EQUITY SHOP.

New York, March 12.—By a vote of 2,398 to 115 the members of the Actors' Equity association have declared in favor of the "equity" shop, to go into effect beginning next September no member of the association will play in companies not under the Actors' Equity association.

The Actors' Equity association includes practically every theatrical star in this country. The association is affiliated with the A. F. of L.

STEEL PRICES GO UP.

Buffalo, N. Y., March 12.—The Lackawanna and Industries is announced that it will go back to the price schedule maintained by the steel trust. It is expected that this means an increase of 15 to 25 per cent.

When the company cut prices recently it also cut wages 15 to 20 per cent from the corresponding period of the sixty-sixth congress. The law originally passed remains in effect, but the repeal applies to an amendment approved in May, 1918.

IOWA UNIONS TO MEET

Burlington, Iowa, March 15.—The annual convention of the Iowa state federation of labor will convene in

"SQUEALER" IS BLAMED.

Williamson, W. Va., March 12.—The defense in the case of Sid Hatfield and 11 others charged with murder, charged with the murder of seven Baldwin-Felts detectives last May, will attempt to show that Lesan Brewer, one of the original defendants, who turned state's evidence.

It is stated Brewer is related to two of the men killed in the gun battle. The defense claims that Brewer shot Detective Albert Felts shot Mayor Testerman. Witnesses testified that they heard both guns discharged at the same time and Hatfield. Among these witnesses is William Brewer, a deputy sheriff and an uncle of Brewer.

The theory of the defense was sustained by Troy Farley, a boy. Attorneys for the state grilled the boy for over an hour, but failed to weaken him.

C. E. Lively, the Baldwin-Felts spy, who opened a restaurant at Matewan and posed as a union man to gain the confidence of the accused was forced to acknowledge that he had been arrested for forgery in Indiana, that he entered a plea of involuntary manslaughter and was sentenced to a short term in jail. Lively had previously told a sensational story of how Hatfield and other defendants boasted to him that they killed the detectives.

WANT SCHOOLS USED.

Washington, March 12.—A wider use of public school buildings as a center for community activities, is urged by P. P. Claxton, United States commissioner of education.

"There are 27,000,000 children of school age in the United States, most of them are idle nine-tenths of their time in the home environment and conditions of life. Public schools," he said, "if these children are to have proper training, either in the home or in the schools, it is necessary for the parents to know the teachers and for the teachers to know the parents in order to cooperate wisely.

"The use of the school house as a center for community activities is an actual necessity in many districts. The organization of community activities will do much to bring about co-operation."

Mr. Claxton does not recommend any definite program. He says that communities can take up their own problems.

EDUCATION IS URGED.

Madison, Wis., March 12.—At a conference of the state federation of labor in this city the committee on legislation was instructed to carry on an educational campaign among workers to show that anti-union propaganda is paid for by funds amassed by reducing the wages of non-unionists.

The federation's legislative committee was instructed to amend the workmen's compensation act giving injured workers the right to choose their own physicians, and the recall of administrative officials; for one day's rest in seven for all workers and a 44-hour working week for females and minors in the state.

It was declared that the factory inspection law is practically useless because of the fact that these inspectors must cover is so large that the interests of the factories are not inspected.

DEMAND MOONEY PROBE.

San Francisco, March 12.—The labor council has adopted a resolution calling upon the grand jury to investigate the Mooney case until the conviction of Mooney and Billings have "once and for all been proven to be unjustified."

It is declared that "the accusation, now accepted throughout the country, that the processes of justice have been prostituted to serve the sinister ends of certain groups of public enemies, is a constant reproach to the name of all justice loving Americans to the fair name of California."

STOPS SEVEN-DAY WEEK

New York, March 12.—Judge Gary announces in the public press that the steel trust has definitely ended the seven-day week and the long turn in chucking shifts. He also states that abolition is now in force that is being considered.

Skeptics recall that similar announcements have been made before and they are waiting for proof that the trust has definitely put the legislation against it, before cheers are ordered.

SNEAK IN COSSACKS.

Olympia, Wash., March 12.—Cossack advocates attempted to sneak this measure through the state legislature by having it concealed in a report from the committee on roads and bridges. Under the act the director of efficiency may appoint an unlimited number of "highway police," with authority equal to city police, and sheriffs.

OIL WORKERS' UNITE.

Houston, La., March 12.—Oil workers in the oil fields have organized and affiliated with the boilermakers' union, a branch of the A. F. of L.

DOLLAR FLAG WAVERS SCORED BY VETERANS

Minneapolis, March 12.—At a mass meeting of unemployed, ex-service men, scathing resolutions were adopted against business interests that applauded the boys in khaki three years ago and now show no interest in their welfare.

A program to relieve the unemployed was agreed to and in urging its adoption by state, county and city officials, the meeting declared: "We do not want the men who, when bandit like, enriched themselves during the war, now hesitate to join our friends in singing, 'Keep the Home Fires Burning,' and that under the profiteer who sang so lustily while we fought, are today under the slogan of the non-union or 'open' shop, handed together for the purpose of putting out the fires of freedom and of those who assert their liberty and right to organize for their own protection. Through artificial unemployment they seek to make the beginning of all that the workers gold and their children hungry.

"We fought to make the world safe for democracy. We fought to only to end the reign of the tyrant of Prussia, only to terrorize the era of industrial kings and kaisers of our own.

"Work or fight' was the order sent to the workers ages ago and we fought and worked. Today we are jobless, while those who sat on the side lines, piling up the millionaires of California and Florida enjoying the fruits of the virtues from the blood of our comrades and our sacrifices."

WAGE CUT NO SOLUTION

Minneapolis, March 12.—Wage cuts will not relieve the building situation, according to a statement issued by the Building Workers' union No. 392, in reply to a demand by contractors that rates be reduced 20 per cent.

The proposed downward revision of wage scales, says the statement, would only appreciably stimulate building, because the prevailing high cost of the construction industry is principally due to financial contingency. With interest rates at their present high level, and especially in view of the fact that extreme wage cutting would mean decreased efficiency.

WANTS PEOPLE TO RULE

Fort Smith, Ark, March 12.—The proposed commission plan of municipal government, now being advocated autocratic at a mass meeting in this city, because the plan, claim it will be more efficient.

The commission form of government, from the point of efficiency, is as the Roman empire under Julius Caesar or Napoleon, declared Grover Wilhelm," declared Benjamin Cravens.

"Both crumbled and fell in disgrace and ruin. Many of the more right have bankers, merchants and professional men on the boards more than the laborers and common people of Fort Smith!' Advocates of the bill declare that the interests of business men could choose a better mayor and commission than they could the people at large. If the people of Fort Smith haven't enough sense to choose their own city officer, then why assume that they have enough sense to choose seven good men for directors?"

PAINT SPRAYS HARMFUL.

Olympia, Wash., March 12.—Painters who have been victims of legislation for the protection of workmen from poisonous and dangerous gases and fumes, by prohibiting the use of paint spraying machines that spray poisonous and dangerous materials.

Such a state conference of painters in this line of industry has been secured, of the harmful effects of spraying machines in the workshop, linseum, inevitably making the operator sick, injuring his eyesight and causing him to suffer carbolism. Organized painters as a rule refuse to work where such legislation is necessary to protect the health organized and unskilled who are induced to work.

BILLS THAT FAILED.

Washington, March 12.—At the final adjournment of the sixty-sixth congress, the following bills failed to pass:

Pure-butter-and-cattle bill, government regulation of cold storage, Webb bill to permit co-operative marketing by farmers, appropriate money for federal good roads, Sheppard-Towner act, to feed stuffs, infant and maternity fund, creating a department of education.

END LABOR COMMITTEE.

Chicago, March 12.—The national association of railway executives has abolished its labor committee. The organized effort to prevent a national agreement and the managers insisted the system organization with its employes, the managers have been conducting their fight through their organization committee, and they have discovered that it is inconsistent with their claims. As they have come to an understanding they can now conduct the affairs individually.

WOULD SET WAGES.

Albany, N. Y. March 12.—Under a bill introduced by representatives of the state industrial commission would be authorized to fix the wages of employes of any factory, to secure uniformity of industry, and to investigate wage conditions and fix minimum wage rates.

DEFEAT ANTI-STRIKE LAW.

Little Rock, Ark., March 12.—Trade unionists and farmers lined up against a proposed anti-strike law, which was defeated by the state legislature. A factor in its defeat was the active opposition of the Arkansas Federation of Labor, which addressed a letter to members of the legislature, urging the defeat of the measure.